

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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S/PRS - MR KING (SUB)

EUR - MR. SMITH

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R 192029Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR, CA

SUBJECT: NOON BRIEFING AND PIPELINE

FOLLOWING ARE Q'S AND A'S JULY 19 NOON BRIEFING ON OIL
PIPELINE:

Q: HAVE YOU ANY REACTION TO THE RECENT CHARGES BY SENATOR
MONDALE ABOUT TERRIBLE THINGS IN THE TRANS-CANADIAN OR
TRANS-ALASKAN PIPELINE?

A: YES. ON BACKGROUND, LET ME PREFACE THIS BY SAYING
THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE WILL BE APPEARING BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON MONDAY; AND WE CAN EXPECT A
COMPLETE DISCUSSION OF THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE AT THAT
TIME.

ON THE RECORD, I CAN SAY THAT ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT
THAT WE HAVE ACCURATELY AND OBJECTIVELY CONVEYED TO THE
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CONGRESS ALL OF THE INFORMATION WHICH HAS BEEN SUPPLIED

TO US BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q: AS OF TODAY, HAS ANYBODY SPOKEN TO SENATOR MONDALE FROM THE DEPARTMENT TO FIND OUT THE SPECIFICS OF THIS CHARGE? HE CLAIMS TO HAVE PROOF THAT THERE WAS DECEPTION. HAS ANYBODY ASKED HIM FROM STATE WHAT IS THIS PROOF?

A: JUST AS A FACTUAL MATTER, I CANNOT SAY THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH SENATOR MONDALE. THEY MAY HAVE, BUT I'M NOT AWARE IF THEY IN FACT DONE SO.

Q: WHOSE IDEA WAS IT TO HAVE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY?

A: AT WHOSE INITIATIVE? I'M NOT CERTAIN. I WOULD IMAGINE IT WOULD BE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE COMMITTEE.

Q: THEY'RE TWO SEPARATE THINGS, AREN'T THEY? THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE -- I MEAN THE REPRESENTATIVE WILL GO BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. AND THE CHARGE, I BELIEVE, HAS BEEN MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTERIOR COMMITTEE.

IS ANYBODY GOING BEFORE THE SENATE INTERIOR COMMITTEE?

A: I DON'T HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON SUCH A MEETING AT THIS TIME. NO, I DON'T.

Q: IN OTHER WORDS, NOBODY IS GOING TO ANSWER SENATOR MONDALE, EVEN THOUGH THE REPRESENTATIVES WILL GO BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE?

A: I BELIEVE THAT I WOULD LIKE ALL OF THE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ACTUAL COMMITTEE HEARING TO BE ON BACKGROUND. I BELIEVE YOU CAN SAFELY ASSUME THAT DURING THAT MEETING ALL ASPECTS OF THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED
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WITH COMPLETE CANDOR, FRANKNESS, AND TRUTH; AND THAT WILL BE OUR POSITION AND THAT WILL BE OUR APPROACH TO THE COMMITTEE AND TO THE PUBLIC TOO. RUSH

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